Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A getter for use in a sealed enclosure comprising a readily oxidisable metal or metal compound supported on a solid support, wherein, when said metal is in elemental form, the metal surface area is greater than $5m^2g^{-1}$ of metal.

2. (Currently Amended) A getter ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 1, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of nickel, cobalt and copper or mixtures thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A getter ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein said metal is ~~in elemental form and is~~ formed by reduction of a metal compound supported on said support.

4. (Currently Amended) A getter as claimed ~~in any preceding claim~~ according to claim 1 in the form of a shaped pellet or tablet.

5. (Currently Amended) A getter ~~as claimed in any preceding claim~~ according to claim 1, wherein the support is selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica, silica-alumina, titania, zirconia, carbon, or a zeolite.

6. (Original) A method of forming a shaped solid particle suitable for use as a getter for oxygen, said getter comprising a readily oxidisable metal or metal compound supported on a solid support, comprising the steps of:

   (~~i~~a) forming a shaped particle of solid support material,

   (~~ii~~b) depositing a compound of said metal on said shaped particle of support material, by impregnation or precipitation techniques, and

   ~~(iii) optionally calcining said shaped support and metal compound,~~

   (~~iv~~c) reducing at least a portion of said metal compound to elemental metal by heating said shaped support and metal compound in a gaseous stream containing hydrogen.

7. (Original) A method of forming a shaped solid particle suitable for use as a getter for oxygen, said getter comprising a readily oxidisable metal or metal compound supported on a solid support, comprising the steps of:

a) depositing a compound of said metal on the support material,

(i) by impregnation of precipitation, or

(ii) by forming an intimate mixture of support material and metal compound by co-precipitating the metal compound with the support material; then

~~(b) optionally calcining said shaped support and metal compound,~~

(e<u>b</u>) shaping the supported metal compound into a shaped solid particle by tabletting, pelleting or extrusion techniques, and

(d<u>c</u>) reducing at least a portion of said metal compound to elemental metal by heating said shaped support and metal compound in a gaseous stream containing hydrogen.

8. (Currently Amended) An electrical, electronic or optoelectronic apparatus including a sealed enclosure containing a getter ~~as claimed in any of claims 1-5~~ <u>according to claim 1</u>.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) A getter for gettering oxygen in an electrical, electronic or optoelectronic apparatus, said getter comprising a shaped solid particle comprising a metal selected from the group consisting of copper, cobalt or nickel in elemental form supported on a solid support material selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica, silica-alumina, titania, zirconia, carbon or a zeolite.

11. (New) A method according to claim 6 further comprising the step of, between steps b) and c), calcining said shaped metal support and metal compound.

12. (New) A method according to claim 7 further comprising the step of, between steps a) and b), calcining said shaped metal support and metal compound.